

BOW TO CUSTOM

City Commission Losing Money in Bank Deposits.

Only 2 Per Cent Received When More Is Available.

CITY HALL LAYS IT TO WASSON

Commissioner Admits That an Effort Will Be Made.

State Given Much More Right Here in Local Banks.

Why is a dollar in the hands of Topeka belonging to the state, worth from one and one-tenth to two per cent more than a dollar owned by the city of Topeka?

The state of Kansas places its money by bid, with various banks throughout the state and receives from three and one-tenth to four per cent on daily checking account balances. The city of Topeka receives from the city banks of Topeka two per cent flat and when the attention of Commissioner of Finance Wasson was called to the difference he exclaimed, "Is that a fact, I did not know that the state was receiving any such interest."

"It's a fact and can easily be proven," he was informed.

"Who is responsible for the distribution of the city's funds," he was asked. "The various commissioners are responsible," he said.

Commissioner Porter said, "Technically the full board is responsible for the distribution of the city's money but it has been the custom in the past, to place the matter to the commissioner of finance which this present board has done. I personally have had nothing to do with any bank in Topeka which will not and will not receive in the way of money; it's up to Wasson."

Up to Wasson.

Commissioner Newland, "It's strictly up to Wasson what bank receives the city's money, I have nothing to do with it."

Commissioner Tandy, "Who says the state gets more for its money than the city?" He was informed that information came straight from State Treasurer Akers.

"Well," he said with an embarrassed laugh, "I have nothing to do with the financial department but if the city would like to have me handle the funds I will see what I can do to get more for the money."

City Attorney Hayden, "Wasson is responsible for the city funds, it's he and he alone who has the say where the money shall be placed."

"Why can't the city receive as much for its deposits as the state?" Wasson was asked.

"Well, it's this way," he said, "the state agrees to place a certain amount in a bank and leave it there for a definite length of time, and we could not do that with the city money."

State Account Subject to Check.

"The state does not agree to carry any definite balance with any bank for any definite time, it would be foolish to ask or expect such a thing," said State Treasurer Akers.

"Why simply bid for an amount they wish us to let them have and if we can accommodate them we do so but the money is subject to check at any time."

When informed of conditions, Commissioner Wasson, "I am not an expert on money, but I am an expert on the money we have."

"Why has this not been done before?" he was asked.

"Well, I don't know. It's been a custom to let them have it at this date and I am following the old custom."

No commissioner would shoulder or even venture to take part of the responsibility for the loss to the city. In fact there seemed to be a general disposition to avoid discussion of the matter.

From a list obtained it is certain that banks in Topeka pay the state more for the use of its money than they do the city for the use of its money. Four banks in Topeka pay from three and one-tenth to three and one-eighth per cent on all daily balances to the state.

If the city should receive the same amount it would be richer by some \$10 per day, according to the figures issued by Commissioner Wasson. As it is they are losing this amount, and all it seems, because the commissioner of finance has taken the action of his predecessors as a guide.

DRIVE CANADIANS OUT

Berlin Claims German Victory at St. Etienne Near Ypres.

Berlin, April 7.—Capture from the British of mine crater positions south of St. Etienne near Ypres, was announced today by army headquarters. The positions were defended by Canadian troops.

Austro-Turks Take 100 Prisoners.

Berlin, April 7.—The recapture by the Austrians of a ridge north of Montebelluna with the taking of more than 100 prisoners and two machine guns is reported in today's Austro-Hungarian headquarters statement received here from Vienna.

PASSES SEA RAID BILL

Reichstag Favors Drastic U-Boat Warfare Also Full War Budget.

Amsterdam, April 7.—The German Reichstag today adopted the committee's resolution on submarine warfare as well as the budgets of the imperial chancellery and the foreign office.

WHEAT WINTER KILLED

Illinois Average 35 Per Cent Dead; Balance 65 Per Cent Normal.

Springfield, Ill., April 7.—A crop statement issued today by the state board of agriculture shows that 35 per cent of the wheat acreage of the state was winter-killed and that only 65 per cent of the living wheat is in satisfactory condition. These figures are based on data collected April 1.

RAILROADS

FOR PUBLIC GOOD

Railway Brotherhoods Set Forth Some Advantages

Of an Eight-Hour Day to the Shippers.

Cleveland, O., April 7.—That the establishment of a basic eight-hour day for engineers, firemen and trainmen in the freight service would be the salvation of the shipping public is being claimed here by the railway brotherhoods. As another factor, they say, can be so effective in putting a stop to the increasing tendency of railways to make slower movements.

The establishment of the eight-hour day will compel railways to maintain an average speed of 12½ miles per hour as opposed to 10 miles per hour as at present. That this change need not prove disastrous to the railways is demonstrated, members of the brotherhoods point out, by the fact that 21 roads are now operating freight trains on the 12½ hour basis.

In an effort to operate trains within the 12½ mile per hour limit, railways will not be able to hold trains at every terminal, the brotherhoods claim. It also will be necessary for the roads to run shorter trains, they claim.

HERE AND THERE

IN THE RAILWAY WORLD.

Following the closing of the convention of the National Industrial Traffic League at Baltimore today, a committee of that organization will go to Washington, D. C., for a conference with a committee representing the railroads of the country and representatives of the interstate commerce commission on the subject of a uniform bill of lading. This subject has been discussed by trafficmen, shippers and railroads for years.

Hundreds of rate proceedings which have been hanging fire in the interstate commerce commission more than five years are to be cleared up by an order of the commission. The bulk of the cases are made up of a wide range of commodities on which the railroads ask relief from the long and short haul provisions of the rate law. Many of these cases have been automatically disposed of by the railroads, the commission believes. They remain unfinished in the commission's files, however, and it is to clear away the accumulation that the commission has called on the roads to state the status of each application that has not been disposed of.

Arrangements have been made by the "Katy" to expend \$1,800,000 for the improvement of San Antonio terminals. Notes for this amount are to be issued by the federal government.

The \$20,000,000 Great Lake Transit corporation will begin operations Monday. The corporation will operate five vessels, totaling 160,000 tons, according to an announcement by officials of the company.

The Erie and Western Transit company, formerly owned by the Erie Railroad, has been purchased by the Erie and Western Transit company, owned jointly by several eastern roads; the lake boats will be operated by the Erie and Western Transit company, purchased from the Rutland Railroad company.

City Offices Moved Into New Quarters, New England Building.

The Mt. Hope Cemetery company has recently moved its city offices into the New England building. It occupies the second floor, room 201, at 412-414, in which A. B. Whiting, the president, has headquarters.

Mt. Hope cemetery was organized several years ago. Mr. Whiting being the founder. He purchased 160 acres of land a mile and a half northwest of the city, and decided to use the company for 100 years. Even if the company were to be sold, the cemetery would be an important source of income to Washburn college and to the two Christian associations of the city, the Y. M. C. A., and the Y. W. C. A. The proceeds from the sale of the cemetery would be reserved for maintenance of the cemetery, goes into an endowment fund for these institutions. Already several thousand dollars have been paid to them.

It is estimated that when all the lots in the cemetery shall have been sold the company's total revenue derived therefrom will be about \$250,000. This would give Washburn college and the two Christian associations something like \$255,000, leaving the perpetual care fund. Of course, it will be many years before this will happen.

The perpetual care feature was worked out by Mr. Whiting, who had seen many neglected graves and neglected cemeteries, having always taken a great interest in cemetery work. At the time very few cemeteries in the country had this feature. Mr. Whiting made it possible for Mt. Hope without it costing any more than in other cemeteries because he made Mt. Hope a purely philanthropic institution instead of creating it as a money-making scheme.

Mr. Whiting has been paid to him as a Mount Hope cemetery.

The location of Mount Hope is excellent. It is situated on high gently sloping ground, with a view of the city, yet still far enough away from the noise of traffic to make it ideal as a city for the dead.

High Wind Destroys Houses in Suburb of New Orleans.

New Orleans, April 7.—Two persons were killed, several others injured and a number of houses were blown down in the Gentilly subdivision, on the northern outskirts of the city, during heavy rain and wind storm early today.

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CORNER WOMEN

Congressional Union Keeps Secret List of 200 Guests.

More Trouble for Kansas Federation of Clubs.

TO BREAK UP CATT DINNER

Most of Kansas Women Stolen by Vernon Faction.

Rival Dinners To Be Held at Same Time.

Members of the congressional union have slipped one over on the Kansas Federation of Clubs.

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TABLE TALK

AT THE COMMERCIAL CLUB.

The crowding and confusion in service at the Rotary banquet at the Mills building yesterday is pointed to by W. C. Carwell as a strong argument for the acquisition of the Elks building by the Commercial club. Apparently large gatherings of this nature can find no place in Topeka adequate for a comfortable banquet.

LOSERS OWN TITLE

Barney McMann, Topeka, Was Eighth Wonder of World.

Went to "Pen" Claiming He Drank 72 Quarts Beer One Day.

BUT—AND HERE LIES THE TALE

Barney 'Fesses Up That He Didn't Do Any Such Thing.

As a Result He May Be Paroled From State Prison.

After sitting in a cell at the state penitentiary and thinking it over for eighteen months Barney McMann has come to the conclusion that he grossly misrepresented his appetite and capacity for beer and whisky when he had his last conversation with the court and county attorney of Shawnee county.

Barney went to the penitentiary for a term of from one to seven years because he maintained that he drank seventy-two quarts of hot beer one afternoon and evening and that two days later, at one sitting, he drank forty-eight half pints of whisky. Briefly, Barney went to the penitentiary for perjury.

As a result of his deep thinking at the penitentiary it is likely that he will be paroled. He wrote to W. E. Atchison, county attorney, confessing his misrepresentation, and Mr. Atchison today wrote to Governor Arthur Capen, recommending a parole under the usual conditions.

Barney's trouble began when he was brought into the county attorney's office on an investigation. Officials had discovered that he had received seventy-two quarts of beer in one shipment one Saturday at noon and that the following Monday morning he received a shipment of whisky half pints of whisky. The officials wanted to know for whom he was ordering so much liquor. They did not charge him with anything. They wanted to know only who was really buying the liquor. They didn't find out—not until County Attorney Atchison received a letter from Barney yesterday.

He Just Drank It All.

"I'll tell you how that was," said McMann when he was brought in for inquiry. "I got that beer Saturday afternoon and took it down to the river bank near the sand-dip. I just sat down there and drank all of it that afternoon and evening."

"If that's the case what did you do with the bottles?" was asked.

"Why, you see," said Barney, "when I drank that beer I just naturally threw it in the river. That's the reason I didn't have any bottles left."

When the inquirers reached the whisky merchant Barney had the same sort of a story to tell. He said he again located himself convenient to the sand-dip and proceeded to absorb the whisky until he had drunk one half-pint after another until the case of forty-eight had been emptied.

The county attorney's force was convinced that Barney had perjured himself so they charged him with perjury and tried him on that charge. He was convicted before Judge A. W. Dana and sentenced to a term of from one to seven years. After sentence had been passed Barney was taken in hand by Sheriff James Atchison.

Barney Stood Pat.

"Now Barney, listen to me," said the county attorney, "I know and you know you didn't drink all that liquor. You just have a chance to keep out of the penitentiary by telling me the truth. Now whom did you order that liquor for?"

Barney, with the penitentiary staring him in the face, stood pat. He stood pat for eighteen months. Then Sheriff James Atchison came and Barney happened to see him. He became homesick. He wanted to come home. And he sat himself down and penned a letter to County Attorney Atchison telling him he had declined to tell before.

He declares in his letter that he did drink some of the liquor but that he really ordered it for New Thompson and Hank Shaffer, the latter now deceased.

Barney is the man who in all seriousness told Sheriff Kiely over at the penitentiary last week to tell County Attorney Atchison that he had quit drinking.

ELKS DO TAKE ACTION

Topeka Lodge Will Discuss Commercial Club Purchase Wednesday.

Urgent invitations will be issued to all Elks to attend a meeting Wednesday night when the proposed purchase of their building by the Commercial Club will be discussed. It is considered probable that final action will be taken at that time. A meeting of the building committee, charged with the subject was held at the Commercial Club this noon.

Members of the committee were presented with carbon copies containing names of the 250 or 300 men owning bonds. It was decided that a letter should be mailed to each bondholder asking the amount of his bonds and also inquiring as to whether he will exchange bonds for stock issued by a Commercial Club Stock company.

Up to date the building committee has discovered none of the heavy bondholders who are against the proposition and not willing to exchange bonds for stock. Members of the Commercial Club from each city were believed to be present at Wednesday night's meeting.

ENTERTAIN 'POST' BOYS

Thirty-four Topeka Youngsters Guests of Miss M. H. Goodrich.

Thirty-four Saturday Evening Post salesmen—young business men from the public schools—are to be the guests of Miss M. H. Goodrich at a luncheon to be served in the Commercial club at noon Saturday.

The Post salesmen are members of the P. J. G. Ten club, one of the organizations made up of youngsters who deliver the Saturday Evening Post to their customers every Thursday.

Following the luncheon several local business men will tell the young salesmen just now they can improve their methods of obtaining new customers and retaining the friendship of the old ones.

Yours truly,

W. C. KIELY.

Norden B. A. Banquet.

A musical entertainment will replace this year the annual banquet of the Norden Benefit association. The entertainment will be held next Monday night at 8 o'clock at the W. H. Hall. The following program has been arranged:

Spring Song—Svea male chorus.

Piano solo—Miss Edna Nygren.

Reading—Miss Anderson.

Instrumental solo—The Misses Peterson.

Solo—Miss Eva Ekstrom.

Address—The Rev. J. A. Liljengren.

Duet—Miss Oak and Miss Peterson.

Folk Song—Svea male chorus.

They were found later.

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